

A Republican's View of the Insurance Fight.

Throwing politics aside and looking at the life and fire insurance business from a purely business and moral standpoint, Webb McNaill, in his efforts to force a compliance with the laws of the State, is right. Technically, in the Hillmon case he was wrong, but in justice he was right. The Clarkson rate book has just been decided to be an illegal and swindling scheme by the fire insurance companies on the people of this State. Emporia people get it in the neck as does every other community who patronize these companies. You have no way to reach them except through your Insurance Commissioner, the legally constituted officer of the realm, and if he fails to do his duty the business people of the State who feel that they must carry some insurance are at the mercy of a combination of insurance cut-throats who are robbing them in both the rate and the adjustment of losses. We do not necessarily have to indorse Populism to stand by a Populist official who is trying to keep men from robbing you. If job lots of these insurance companies shall be driven from the State, it will be all the better for the State. The companies will be gone, but the money will remain. It was, in former days, not only a financial question, but a great moral question, whether either life or fire insurance should be allowed; but the devil and the cupid of mankind prevailed, and now, in the height of their rapacity and fraudulent practices, these companies are considered bulwarks of safety and angels of mercy. However, like the whisky question, and some other questions closely associated therewith, it is generally conceded that they should be regulated. After a while we will get back to first principles and prohibit them altogether. McNaill and Boyle are two State officers who have shown backbone, nerve, grit and force in tackling frauds wherever they find them, from a wildcat insurance company to the Kansas City stock yards, and Governor Leedy is to be commended for proposing to stay by them if it takes the last cent in the treasury.—Emporia Republican.

Actions Belie Professions of Belief.

General Miles, who has just returned from a tour of observation and inspection among the monarchical governments of Europe, recommends that a few Gatling guns be mounted over the approaches to the new Chicago postoffice building as a precaution against the possible onslaughts of future mobs. What we would like to know is: Where are these mobs to come from, and why would a government building be the object of their fury? Our understanding of the matter is that just as soon as the Republican tariff gets in good working order and the soundness of the dollar is assured, the mills and factories will all be opened, everybody will be employed at high wages, crops will be good, and contentment and happiness is to reign supreme. What need will there be for Gatling guns then? Why should there be mobs seeking to destroy the property of so beneficent a government? This is a case of where actions plainly belie professions of belief.—Clay Center Dispatch.

Rufe Cone's Removal Demanded.

The Wichita Commoner demands the removal of Rufe Cone from the Populist State committee. It charges that he openly fights the State administration and that he did everything in his power to bring about the defeat of the local ticket this year. Cone's position has been taken, it is said, because he was unable to control the appointments on the police board. In closing its article, the Commoner says:

"As soon as the present board was appointed he commenced his fight. He did not wait for developments so that he might bring charges of corruption in office. He commenced his fight at once, plainly indicating that he would fight any board appointed contrary to his dictation.

"The board was not removed and he tried to show his strength by wreaking his vengeance on the local ticket. He has made his threats of what he would do next year if the present police board was not removed. In short, he has conducted himself entirely on the rule or ruin policy and has shown him-

self to be in no way fit to be in the councils of a party that is striving for principle.

"We demand that Rufe Cone be removed from the State Central committee. This demand is general among all true members of the Populist party who are familiar with the facts. It is demanded for the good of the party, and not in the interest of the present board of police commissioners or any other individuals."

Republican Brutality.

While Republican papers are retelling a lot of senseless and wholly false stuff about the present management of Kansas charitable institutions, a committee of the G. A. R. is bringing to light shocking evidences of brutality in the Soldiers' Orphans' Home in Republican Illinois. A dispatch dated November 5 from Bloomington says:

"A shocking state of affairs in the Illinois Soldiers' Orphans' Home is being revealed by the searchlight turned upon it. The investigation is being conducted by a committee of the Grand Army of the Republic of Illinois, inspired by the numerous charges of rottenness recently put in circulation. Witnesses upon their oaths stated that they had seen little children knocked down by Superintendent Wagner. They swore that girls had been kept in bed two days as punishment for trifling offenses, and testified that it was nothing unusual for the employees to strike the boys with a leather strap across the backs, or beat them on the ears and head with their fists."

Republican Row Begins.

W. E. Sterne, whom Senator Baker has recommended for United States Marshal, refused to attend the meeting of the Republican State Executive committee last Saturday, notwithstanding the fact that he is a member. He regards the present organization as a thing which is intended to be of greater service to Cy Leland than to the party, and he will have nothing to do with it. The committee decided to open headquarters for next year's campaign February 1. The matter of raising money will be discussed at another meeting December 27. The postmasters will probably be assessed. This early move indicates that the Republicans realize that they have a hard fight on for next year.

Not Much Politics in It.

The following from the Dodge City Globe-Republican would probably apply to nearly every county in the State:

"The election did not have much political significance, Democrats and Republicans voting a 'mixed ticket,' while the Populists 'scratched' promiscuously. The Populist defection was not as great as anticipated, and the loss of the Soldiers' Home vote was a serious one to the Republican ticket. Many Republicans in the city voted for the successful Democratic candidates, while many Populist voters in the county voted for the defeated Republican candidates."

The Union Pacific

Passes through the best cities and towns of Kansas, Colorado, Wyoming and Utah, and is the best route to Denver, Cheyenne, Salt Lake City, San Francisco, Portland and all Puget Sound points.

The advantages gained by traveling via the Union Pacific are quick time, unequalled service, magnificent equipment, double drawing-room Pullman palace sleepers, Pullman dining cars, free reclining chair cars, Pullman tourist sleepers.

For time tables, pamphlets descriptive of the country traversed, rates of fare, sleeping car accommodations, or any other information, apply to F. A. Lewis, City Ticket Agent.

J. C. Fulton, Depot Agent.

"Among the Ozarks."

"The Land of Big Red Apples" is an attractive and interesting book, handsomely illustrated with views of south Missouri scenery, including the famous Olden fruit farm of 3,000 acres in Howell county. It pertains to fruit raising in that great fruit belt of America, the southern slope of the Ozarks, and will prove of great value, not only to fruit-growers, but to every farmer and homeseeker looking for a farm and a home. Mailed free. Address J. E. Lockwood, Kansas City, Mo.

Potato Farming on a Large Scale.

Kansas has some potato-growers who do an extensive business. One firm in Johnson county is thus referred to by Mr. Secretary Coburn in a late report:

"Their shipments last year consisted of 238 cars and this year 257 cars, a carload ranging from 450 to 500 bushels, thus making their this year's output say 125,000 bushels. Their market is found in every direction, extending from Duluth to the Gulf and from New York to New Mexico; they have recently shipped seven cars to Buffalo, N. Y., which sold at 85 to 90 cents per bushel on track, and were pronounced by the handlers as superior to any others on the market and commanding the highest prices. Much of their product is disposed of at home on bids by wire, but if at any time such bids are not satisfactory they ship on consignment.

"Their intention is to plant next spring 500 acres, and for this purpose have just now purchased in Minnesota 5,000 bushels of seed potatoes for themselves in addition to 4,000 bushels which their neighbors will plant. About nine bushels are used on an acre if the potatoes are large; if small a less quantity of seed is required. In a fair season and from Northern-grown seed a crop of 200 bushels per acre is counted on. This year's crop netted the growers from 45 to 50 cents per bushel, on track.

"The reasons they give for planting seed from Minnesota are that such seed sprouts more slowly and hence can be planted early with less danger of being injured by spring frosts; and a yield of at least fifty bushels more per acre can be counted on, with fewer culls than if home-grown seed is used. Last year buyers were willing to pay 4 cents per bushel more for stock Northern seed, which of itself would pay the difference in its cost. They claim that the early Ohio is the best all-around potato for their purpose from the fact that it matures fairly well before dry weather sets in and will stand more handling during hot weather without rotting than any other early variety; but, maturing so early and lying in the hot sand for two or three months afterward their vitality for seed is weakened.

"These gentlemen say that taking it all in all it is an undisputable fact that the bottom lands of the Kaw valley are

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PROPOSALS FOR BIDS.

Sealed proposals will be received by the Board of Trustees of the State Charitable Institutions of Kansas, until 12 o'clock, noon, Tuesday, December 7, 1897, for a ward building adjacent to the Asylum for Idiots and Imbecile Youth, located at Winfield, Kansas.

This work is authorized under sections 2 and 3 of chapter 23 of the session laws for 1897.

Bids will be considered for the building as revised complete, except heating, and also as revised, but with the elimination of the west wing. Plans and specification may be seen on and after November 29 at the asylum at Winfield, Kansas; at the office of T. H. Lecher, State House architect, Topeka, Kansas; and at the office of William W. Rose, architect, Kansas City. A certified check equal to 5 per cent. of the amount of the bid must accompany each estimate, the same to be made payable to F. H. Dolan, Treasurer of the board.

Blank proposals will be furnished to those requesting them.

The board reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

The provisions of the eight-hour law (chapter 114 of the session laws of 1891) must be complied with.

Proposals should be sealed and addressed to W. L. Brown, President of the Board of Charities, Topeka, Kansas, and marked plainly on the outside, "Proposal for Public Work at Winfield."

S. C. WHEELER, Secretary.

unsurpassed by any known for potato production."

Santa Fe Route—California Limited.

The California Limited now runs twice a week between Chicago and Los Angeles, via Santa Fe Route. The third annual season for this magnificent train.

Equipment of superb vestibuled Pullman palace sleepers, buffet smoking car, and through dining car managed by Mr. Fred Harvey. Most luxurious service via any line, and the fastest time.

Another express train, carrying palace and tourist sleepers, leaves daily for California.

Inquire of Local Agent A. T. & S. F. Ry.

Pass the Advocate to your neighbor after you have read it. Let him find out what he is missing by not reading it.

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PROPOSALS FOR BIDS FOR SUPPLIES.

Proposals for supplying the articles named herein are respectfully solicited. Bids will be opened at the National hotel, Topeka, Kansas, December 1, 1897, at 9 o'clock a. m. Awards will be made at 6 o'clock p. m. of December 10, 1897. Bidders must be present at 9 o'clock a. m., December 8, prepared to place their goods before the various committees of the board.

SPECIFICATIONS.

Supplies should be, as far as practicable, delivered on the cars at the towns where the respective institutions are located, except as herein otherwise specified, not later than December 30, 1897. Freight and all other charges must be prepaid. No allowance will be made for bottles, boxes, boxing, cooperage or drayage.

When one particular brand of goods is called for, no sample is to be submitted and no bids will be considered for any other brand. When alternative brands are given, submit samples. When no particular brand is designated, bids should be on qualities grading from medium to best, and samples submitted.

Bidders must not submit more than four samples of any article.

Goods will be subject to inspection, and all articles that may in any respect fail to conform to the specific kind or brand called for, or to the sample, will be rejected.

Supplies mentioned "As Ordered" are to be shipped as ordered from the institution, and must be new and fresh. The quantities given are approximate only, and all goods ordered by the different institutions in excess of the schedule amount shall be furnished at contract price.

The board reserves the right to reject any and all bids, or to accept or reject any part of any bid, if deemed for the best interests of the State.

Bids must be made out upon the within proposal and net prices only given.

Payments will be made on or before January 15, 1898, for all supplies furnished before December 30, 1897; provided, that vouchers in duplicate are made out and received in due form and forwarded to the respective institutions on or before January 1, 1898.

When supplies are furnished monthly, or as ordered, payments will be made on the 15th day of the succeeding month in which supplies are delivered, where vouchers are received before the 1st day of the month.

A deposit of fifty dollars (\$50), or a certified check for that amount, payable to P. H. Dolan, Treasurer State Board Charitable Institutions, must accompany each proposal as a guaranty that the contract, if awarded, will be faithfully complied with. Bids not accompanied by check or draft will not be considered.

When samples are required, expressage must be prepaid in full by the bidder to insure their removal from the express office. Each sample must be plainly marked with its price and the name of the owner. Each institution to be furnished with samples.

A bill in detail must be sent when goods are shipped, to secure acceptance of the same.

Envelopes containing proposals must be indorsed "Proposals for Supplies." Samples and proposals must be addressed to W. L. Brown, care National hotel, Topeka, Kansas.

The board will not be responsible for samples submitted.

Duplicate schedules will be furnished upon application to Dr. C. H. Wetmore, Superintendent Topeka asylum.

By order of the Board of Trustees.

W. L. BROWN, President.

By H. G. JUMPER.

S. C. WHEELER, Secretary.

IF YOU HAVE A HOME **HOW IMPORTANT IT IS**
for you to keep that well protected against loss
by a duly authorized, **SAFE** and strong company,
representing a perfectly **AND RELIABLE INSURANCE.**

Such a company is **The Farmers' Alliance Insurance Co.,** of McPHERSON, KANSAS.

Insures all kinds of farm property, school houses and churches against loss or damage by fire, lightning, windstorms, cyclones and tornadoes. It being duly authorized and chartered under the State laws of Kansas, and is not affected by the decision of the State Superintendent of Insurance, which excludes all but Kansas companies from doing a windstorm business.

JOHN W. YOW, Secy. Over \$600,000 written in April. I. F. TALBOTT, Sec'y, McPHERSON, Kas.

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